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Transcriber's Office

April 14, 1999 LB 512, 652

which was the first amendment you had filed with me.
(Legislative Journal page 1351.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Thompson, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could just take a minute or two to tell you where we are with this bill, and then I will address the amendment. LB 652, as originally presented, was a combination of three bills addressing issues in the juvenile justice system. They are dealing with serious, chronic offender placements that, as I described them yesterday, are more or less the deep end of the pool. These are placements that are out of homes that are being in many cases paid for by the Office of Juvenile Services, in most cases, and in other cases being paid for by county governments. This is not a comprehensive solution to the issues of the juvenile justice system. Next year, I will be back working with the County Officials Association, who have hired a consultant and are working on a number of ways to address some early end issues which we desperately need, and I look forward to working with them. This is just dealing with the very serious chronic offenders at the other end of the spectrum. LB 652 as presented yesterday is the original bill with committee amendments that are before you. The committee amendments are two other bills, and there is a green sheet being passed out today which describes all three bills, and there will be a change that I'll be discussing shortly after we finish this amendment. The committee amendment deals with issues that were in LB 610, which was the compromise with LB 512 dealing with the issues facing county government in placements that are being made that are being paid for by the county government largely because of inadequacies of the state system. These committee amendments have been agreed to by the counties and were brought by the Department of Health and Human Services to clarify that transportation costs would still be borne by the counties. This works better than the way the amendment was originally written. And also to ensure that what we're talking about here are the kids in out-of-home placements placed with the Office of Juvenile Services, not children placed on probation accessing, directly accessing those services. So the amendment, which I ask you to adopt, is technical in nature. It's an agreement